

SISTER PETRONILLA PANTALONE
(October 7, 1923 January 26, 1990)

Sr. Petronilla was born on October 7, 1923 in Crabtree, Pennsylvania. Sister was christened Angelina at St. Bartholomew Church in Crabtree, Pennsylvania. Sr. Petronilla entered the Community on July 30, 1945 in White Plains and made her first profession on August 2, 1947.

Sister's first assignment was at St. Dominic's, Bronx, New York doing parish work. In 1948 Sister transferred to Our Lady of Loreto, in New York City where she cared for the children for three years. From 1952 to 1962 Sr. Petronilla taught in Kitwe, Africa. After her return to the United States in 1962, Sister once again continued her teaching apostolate in St. Roch's, Staten Island, St. Roch, Greenwich, Connecticut, St. John Villa Academy, Staten Island, St. Bernard, Plainfield, N.J., and St. Lucy, Newark, N.J. While teaching at St. Roch's in Greenwich, Connecticut, Sister was also local Superior from 1968 to 1969. From 1984 to 1987, Sister Petronilla assumed the responsibility of Superior at St. James, New York. During this time, Sister performed many acts of charity, feeding and clothing the poor in the neighborhood. In 1987 Sister was transferred to Immaculate Heart Novitiate in the Bronx, where she assisted the Directress but also served in the nursing home as a ward clerk and in caring for the infirm. In 1989 Sister's generosity was completely given to care for ladies at Providence Rest. On November 20, 1989, Sr. Petronilla was hospitalized and learned that she had terminal cancer. Upon her discharge from Our Lady of Mercy Hospital in Bronx, on December 18, 1989, Sr. Petronilla was brought to Mt. St. John Convent, Purchase, N.Y. After two days of excruciating pain and then a calm morning following the third day, the Lord called her to Himself on January 26, 1990.

Sister Petronilla earned a BS Degree in Education in 1971 from Seton Hall University.

Sr. Petronilla was always ready to do whatever was asked of her. Be it in the capacity of administration, teaching or merely cleaning a room, she did it with a smile and with all her heart. Her spirit of obedience was truly lived. Whatever crossed her path, she responded to the present moment. She performed beyond the call of duty. She fed and clothed the poor, listened to the distressed and gave most generously to all who asked. Her compassion was unending. When she learned of her illness Sister accepted it in the same way she lived all her life. Her terminal illness brought her to her death in three months. Her last hours were filled with trust and resignation to God's will for her.

MAY SHE REST IN PEACE!